

PETITION

OF

OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN MEXICO,

PRAYING

The passage of a law providing for the retirement of old and disabled officers.

DECEMBER 20, 1847.

Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

NATIONAL PALACE,

Mexico, September 24, 1847.

SIR: I herewith forward you a petition of officers of the army for a law for the retirement of old and disabled officers, and for other purposes, and most respectfully solicit your interest in the subject. It is one of deep interest to the officers of the army, as is evidenced by this petition being signed by almost every member of the old regiments serving here.

I have the honor to be, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

HARVEY BROWN,

Major U. S. Army.

HON. THOMAS H. BENTON, Senator.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America:

We, the undersigned, officers of the army, most respectfully represent to your honorable bodies, that, in consequence of age, infirmity, and other causes, many of the officers of the army are permanently unfitted for active duty in the field, and that their places are supplied, and their duties performed by their juniors, to the great injury of the service, and to the prejudice of the younger officers of the army. We would most respectfully urge, that faithful servants, having spent all the best years of their lives in the service of their country, are entitled to an honorable competence on their retiring from active service; and we respectfully express the opinion that the pay proper, as proposed, some years since, by Major General Macomb, and recently renewed by the Adjutant General, is *not* such a competence. For the purpose, therefore, of rendering the army more efficient of doing justice, both to those who remain in, and to those who may retire from the service, we respectfully petition—

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1st. That officers of the army, who, in the opinion of a board of officers, approved by the President of the United States, may, from age, infirmity, or other causes, become permanently unfitted for duty in the field, *shall* retire from active service in the army.

2d. That officers who have faithfully served their country for thirty years may have the privilege of retiring from active service in the army.

3d. That all officers so retiring from active service in the army, shall, during their natural lives, receive the pay proper of their respective rank and the service rations to which they may be entitled at the time of their retiring.

4th. That the places of officers so retiring shall be filled by regular promotion of the officer next in rank; and the officers so promoted receiving only the allowances of the higher grade to which they shall be promoted.

Your petitioners entertain the belief that the enactment of a law, founded on the foregoing principles, will not only be beneficial to individual officers, but will essentially tend to the usefulness and efficiency of the army; and they therefore solicit its passage. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

PUEBLA, MEXICO, *August 1, 1847.*

Concurring in the object of this petition, and seeing no objection to its being signed and presented, I add my signature to this remark.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

PUEBLA, *August 2, 1847.*

W. J. Worth, Brevet Major General.

B. Riley, Brevet Colonel U. S. Army.

D. E. Twiggs, Brigadier General U. S. Army.

J. A. Quitman, Major General U. S. Army.

James Shields, Brigadier General.

Gid. J. Pillow, Major General U. S. Army.

W. C. De Hart, Captain 2d regiment Artillery.

Persifer F. Smith, Brevet Brigadier General.

S. C. Ridgely, Captain 4th Artillery.

John L. Gardner, Major 4th Artillery.

Harvey Brown, Brevet Major 4th Artillery.

N. S. Clarke, Colonel 6th Infantry.

Wm. S. Harney, Colonel 2d Dragoons.

Geo. Cadwalader, Brigadier General U. S. Army.

Th. Lawson, Surgeon General.

H. L. Scott, Captain 4th Infantry.

W. M. Gardner, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.

E. A. Hitchcock, Lieutenant Colonel 3d Infantry.

John L. Smith, Major Corps of Engineers.

Francis Taylor, Captain 1st Artillery.

E. Kirby, Paymaster U. S. Army.

A. C. Myers, Captain U. S. Army.

B. Randall, Surgeon U. S. Army.

A. Van Buren, U. S. Army.

J. R. Irwin, A. Q. M.

Henry C. Wayne, Captain U. S. Army.
William Turnbull, Major Topographical Engineers.
Charles S. Tripler, Surgeon U. S. Army.
T. Morris, Captain 2d Infantry.
J. J. B. Kingsbury, Captain 2d Infantry.
J. R. Smith, Captain 2d Infantry.
S. Casey, Captain 2d Infantry.
James W. Penrose, Captain 2d Infantry.
H. W. Wessels, Captain 2d Infantry.
J. W. Anderson, Captain 2d Infantry.
D. Davidson, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
B. P. Tilden, jr., First Lieut. 2d regiment U. S. Infantry.
N. Lyon, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
J. Hayden, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
D. R. Jones, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
T. Easby, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
J. W. Schureman, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
Charles E. Jarvis, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
A. H. Davis, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
Frederick Steele, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
Samuel L. Gouverneur, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
L. B. Tower, First Lieutenant of Engineers.
G. T. Beauregard, First Lieutenant of Engineers.
J. L. Mason, Captain of Engineers.
W. B. Blair, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
George Deas, A. A. G.
George Sykes, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
L. A. Armistead, First Lieutenant 6th Infantry.
Edward H. Fitzgerald, First Lieutenant 6th Infantry.
Martin Scott, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel U. S. Army.
D. H. McPhail, Captain 5th Infantry.
N. B. Rossell, First Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
S. H. Fowler, First Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
P. Lugenbeel, Adjutant 5th Infantry.
C. S. Hamilton, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
H. R. Selden, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
F. T. Dent, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
Wm. Chapman, Captain 5th Infantry.
M. Rosecrants, First Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
E. B. Strong, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
M. E. Merrill, Captain 5th Infantry.
J. P. Smith, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
J. V. D. Reeve, Captain 8th Infantry.
E. B. Holloway, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
John Garland, Brevet Colonel U. S. Army.
H. Thorn, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
Robert C. Buchanan, Brevet Major 4th Infantry.
Jenks Beaman, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
U. S. Grant, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
Sid. Smith, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
Henry M. Judah, Second Lieutenant 1st Infantry.
Wm. Maloney, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.

W. A. Nichols, Br. Captain U. S. Army and Adj. 2d Art'y.
 John B. Grayson, Captain and Commissary of Subsistence.
 James Duncan, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel.
 George Thom, Lieutenant Topographical Engineers.
 W. T. H. Brooks, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
 C. A. Waite, Major 8th Infantry.
 J. Selden, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 J. G. Burbank, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 Larkin Smith, Captain 8th Infantry.
 C. D. Jordan, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 George Wainwright, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 George E. Pickett, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 R. P. Maclay, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 Charles G. Merchant, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 C. R. Gates, Captain 8th Infantry.
 J. J. Booker, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 R. B. Screven, Captain 8th regiment Infantry.
 Horace Brooks, Captain 2d Artillery.
 L. G. Arnold, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
 H. A. Allen, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
 Jos. Swift Totten, Second Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
 D. T. Chandler, Captain 3d Infantry.
 A. W. Bowman, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
 J. N. J. Whistler, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
 John D. Wilkins, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
 B. E. Bee, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
 L. S. Craig, Captain 3d Infantry.
 James M. Smith, Captain 3d Infantry.
 Wm. O. Sullivan, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
 H. B. Schroeder, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
 George Nauman, Captain 1st Artillery.
 H. H. Steiner, Assistant Surgeon.
 Henry Coppée, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
 S. K. Dawson, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
 G. Seymour, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
 John M. Brannan, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
 S. Hoffman, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
 E. A. Capron, Captain 1st Artillery.
 M. J. Burke, Captain 1st Artillery.
 J. A. Haskin, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
 John B. Gibson, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
 W. W. Loring, Major regiment M. Rifles.
 G. B. Crittenden, Captain R. M. R.
 J. B. Backenstos, Captain R. M. R.
 G. Granger, Lieutenant Rifles.
 D. M. Frost, Second Lieutenant M. Rifles.
 J. P. Hatch, Second Lieutenant R. M. R.
 M. E. Van Buren, Lieutenant R. M. R.
 A. F. Suter, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
 Llewellyn Jones, Lieutenant Mounted Rifles.
 Alfred Gibbs, Lieutenant R. M. Rifles.
 J. N. Palmer, Lieutenant R. M. R.
 Stephen S. Tucker, Captain K. Co. R. M. R.

J. Frazier Head, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
 Gus. W. Smith, Lieutenant U. S. Engineers.
 A. L. Majilton, Second Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 Thomas Childs, Colonel U. S. Army.
 F. Collins, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 S. H. Drum, Captain 4th Artillery.
 F. J. Porter, Second Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 D. H. Hill, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 J. P. McCown, First Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 George W. Getty, First Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 J. W. Phelps, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 A. P. Howe, Adjutant 4th Artillery.
 J. Plympton, Lieutenant Colonel 7th Infantry.
 H. Bainbridge, Major 7th Infantry.
 F. Gardner, Brevet First Lieut. and Adjutant 7th Infantry.
 Edmund K. Smith, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
 S. B. Maxey, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
 G. R. Paul, Captain 7th Infantry.
 C. Benjamin, First Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
 Wm. H. Tyler, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
 C. Hanson, Captain 7th Infantry.
 S. B. Hayman, First Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
 Thomas Henry, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
 Henry Little, First Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
 R. H. Ross, Captain 7th Infantry.
 L. Gantt, First Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
 John C. Henshaw, Captain 7th Infantry.
 B. L. E. Bonneville, Major 6th Infantry.
 A. D. Nelson, Lieutenant 6th Infantry.
 J. D. Bacon, First Lieutenant 6th Infantry.
 A. Cady, Captain 6th Infantry.
 D. Ruggles, Captain 5th Infantry.
 Wm. Roberts, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
 George Edwards, Second Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
 M. D. L. Simpson, Second Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
 John J. Peck, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
 E. Kirby Smith, Captain 5th Infantry.
 C. F. Smith, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel 2d Artillery.
 L. G. Pitcher, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 Francis Lee, Major 4th Infantry.
 Henry Prince, First Lieutenant and Adjutant 4th Infantry.
 John H. Gore, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
 De L. Floyd Jones, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
 Thomas R. McConnell, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
 James Simons, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
 Thomas J. Montgomery, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
 E. Russell, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
 A. P. Rogers, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
 G. O. Haller, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
 William Armstrong, First Lieut. 2d Artillery and A. Q. M.
 J. Beardsley, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
 James G. Snelling, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.

J. V. Bomford, Captain 8th Infantry.
John D. Clark, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
G. Wright, Brevet Major 8th Infantry.
W. R. Montgomery, Brevet Major U. S. Army.
C. F. Morris, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
H. L. Kendrick, Captain 2d Artillery.
P. H. Galt, Major 2d Artillery.
S. Mackenzie, Captain 2d Artillery.
M. L. Shackelford, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
C. B. Daniels, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
E. B. Alexander, Captain 3d Infantry.
J. Van Horn, Captain 3d Infantry.
Charles C. Keeney, Assistant Surgeon U. S. A.
W. H. Wood, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
J. B. Richardson, First Lieut. 3d regiment U. S. Infantry.
O. L. Shepherd, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
Wm. B. Johns, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
D. C. Buell, Adjutant 3d Infantry.
A. J. Williamson, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
H. B. Clitz, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
S. D. Dobbins, Captain 3d Infantry.
J. S. Hathaway, Captain 1st Artillery.
John H. Winder, Captain 1st Artillery.
J. Dimick, Brevet Major 1st Artillery.
H. D. Grafton, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
John S. Simonson, regiment M. R.
F. S. K. Russell, Second Lieutenant M. Rifles.
B. S. Roberts, Captain Rifles.
R. Murray Morris, 2d Lieut. regiment Mounted Rifles.
Andrew Porter, Captain U. S. Rifles.
Jno. M. Cuyler, Surgeon U. S. Army.
George C. Westcott, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry, A. Q. M.
Edward R. S. Canby, A. A. G. U. S. Army.
E. V. Sumner, Major 2d Dragoons.
J. Oakes, Brevet Second Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
H. W. Merrill, Captain 2d Dragoons.
Croghan Ker, Captain 2d Dragoons.
S. B. Thornton, Captain 2d Dragoons.
Wm. D. Smithe, Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
A. D. Tree, Second Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
Thomas S. Carter, Second Lieutenant 1st Dragoons.
J. M. Hawes, Second Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
George A. H. Blake, Captain 2d Dragoons.
George B. McClellan, Second Lieutenant U. S. Engineers.
John G. Foster, U. S. Engineers.
George H. Gordon, Lieutenant regiment Mounted Riflemen.
Owen Chapman, Lieutenant 1st Dragoons.
A. J. Lindsay, First Lieutenant Mounted Riflemen.
Benjamin Huger, Captain of Ordnance.
Charles P. Stone, Second Lieutenant of Ordnance.

